



Proclamation

By the Mayor of Prattville, Alabama

WHEREAS, the Prattville Fire Department is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in, working in and visiting Prattville; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the location where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, U.S. fire departments responded to an estimated 501,500 structure fires. These fires resulted in 2,685 civilian fire fatalities, 13,000 civilian fire injuries and an estimated \$10.3 billion in direct property damage. There was a civilian fire death every 2 hours and 40 minutes and a civilian fire injury every 34 minutes in 2015. Structure fires were approximately 82%, of the 3,280 civilian fire fatalities while half of these fires were reported at night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m.; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, fires killed 97 people in the State of Alabama; and

WHEREAS, while the risk of a fatality in the home caused by fire increases with the age of the occupants, research shows a working smoke alarm cuts the risk of a home fire fatality in half and an automatic fire sprinkler system in the home cuts the risk by approximately 80%. Alabamians who install smoke alarms and alert devices to accommodate all hearing impaired occupants inside and outside all sleeping areas, on all levels of the home and who plan and practice a home fire escape plan are more prepared and will therefore be more likely to survive a fire; and

WHEREAS, Prattville's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires, fire deaths and injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, Prattville's residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 Fire Prevention theme, "Don't Wait - Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years" effectively serves to educate the public about the vital importance of replacing the smoke alarms in their homes at least every ten years, and to determine the age of their smoke alarms by checking the date of manufacture on the back of the alarms.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Gillespie Jr., Mayor of the City of Prattville, Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 9 through 15, 2016 as

Fire Prevention Week

in the City of Prattville, and urge all the people of Prattville to find out how old the smoke alarms in their homes are, to replace them if they're more than 10 years old, and to participate in the many public safety activities and efforts of Prattville's fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2016.



Given Under My Hand and the Seal of the City of Prattville on the 7th day of October 2016.

Bill Gillespie Jr.

Mayor Bill Gillespie, Jr.